



Dear Sponsor,

You have been asked to be a sponsor for one of the Confirmation candidates of our parish. We welcome you to our program, and thank you for taking on this important role in the life of your candidate.

Because of the importance of a sponsor in the life of any Christian, you are encouraged to spend some time with the Confirmation candidate in the discussion of your faith. Later on your Confirmation Candidate will have a sheet of questions labeled: "Conversation Points for Sponsors & Confirmandi" for you both to talk about each question. You may want to invite your candidate out for breakfast or lunch for some one-on-one time with him or her or perhaps you can find some quiet time at your home or your candidate's home. However you do it, let the conversation include your own lived faith experiences. Why do you believe? Where did your faith come from and how did it develop? What about tough times in your life; how did your faith help you to get through your doubts? We will then ask that both of you sign and date the bottom in the spaces provided to verify that you did indeed meet.

There are several events where your presence is expected; one event is our Confirmation Rehearsal (To Be Announced at a Later Date) and Confirmation itself (When the Date of Confirmation Is Given to us by the Archdiocese).

To help you know what our expectations are of the Candidates, we include the following information:

- ◆ Every Candidate is expected to attend Mass weekly;
- ◆ Every Candidate is asked to participate in a minimum of 25 hours of service in Level 8. Some should be with the parish and the others within the school or neighborhood communities;
- ◆ Candidates have some research and study to do regarding their name choice and/or patron saint;
- ◆ Candidates write a 2nd witness paper which reflect on their experiences of faith;
- ◆ Candidates will have an interview with a member of the Pastoral Staff regarding their experience and preparation for the Sacrament to assess their spiritual growth and readiness.

The 2nd Sheet titled "Confirmation Sponsor Response Form" included with this letter is an additional form we ask you to fill out. In it you can indicate your willingness to take on this important role. Please fill it out as soon as possible, but no later than **January 17, 2018**. **Forms should be given back to your Confirmation Candidate so that he/she can turn it in at their class on Wednesday, January 17, 2018.**

Our congratulations and heartfelt thanks to you, for taking one of our Confirmandi under your spiritual care and guidance. May God bless you in your efforts!

The Confirmation & Pastoral Staff of St. Cecilia